

tube 1 is effected by holding the Leur lock adapter 3 steady with the fingers of one hand, holding the finger grip 16 of the magnetic probe 50 in the other hand and inserting the cylinder 12 of the magnetic probe 50 through the Leur Lock adapter 3 of the catheter 40 and through the radiopaque tube 1. As the probe magnet 14 passes through the elliptically shaped lock 2, the axially embedded spring steel wires 6 become attracted to the probe magnet 14 and cause the elliptically shaped lock 2 to contract and form the shape of the radiopaque tube 1. The united catheter 40 and magnetic probe 50 are completely assembled for use when the Leur Lock adapter flange 5 abuts the magnetic probe arresting flange 15. The united assembly 40 and 50 can be withdrawn through the trachea wall 19 and wall of the throat 18 by gripping the Leur Lock adapter 3 with the hand and effecting withdrawal.

#### CLAIMS

Without further elaboration, the forgoing will so fully illustrate our invention that others may, by applying current or future knowledge readily adapt the same for use under varying conditions of service.

What is claimed of the invention is:

1. An endotracheal catheter comprising a relatively small diameter flexible tubing member for placement through the tracheal wall of a human; one end of said tubing member adapted to form an elliptically shaped bulbous expandable anchoring lock with the trachea

after insertion therein, and the other end of said tubing member having means adapted for connection to a conduit; the one end of said tubing member adapted to form said expandable anchoring lock comprising a plurality of equi-spaced magnetic wires embedded longitudinally within the wall area of said one end of said tubing member and a corresponding number of longitudinal cuts extending through the wall of said tubing member and positioned midway between each of said magnetic wires; said magnetic wires being bowed outwardly and adapted to flex to straight and parallel positions with respect to each other under the influence of a magnetic field created within the interior of said tubing member and to bow outwardly upon removal of said magnetic field whereby said elliptically shaped bulbous anchoring lock is formed within the trachea by the spreading of said flexible tubing member about said wires and wherein said cuts form elliptically shaped apertures through which a fluid can flow.

2. The endotracheal catheter of claim 1 wherein said tubing member is constructed of a radiopaque material.

3. The endotracheal catheter of claim 1 wherein said means adapted for connection to a conduit comprises a Leur Lock adapter.

4. The endotracheal catheter of claim 1 wherein the one end of said tubing member adjacent said anchoring lock terminates in an aperture having a diameter smaller than the inside diameter of said tubing member.

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